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16 MAR 1948

The Honorable James C. Capt
Director of the Bureau of
the Census
The Department of Commerce
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Capt:

The Central Intelligence Agency together with several other interested agencies have had under consideration for some time a coordinated inter-agency plan for the collection, evaluation and dissemination of intelligence information in the field of foreign population and manpower.

Two meetings have been held, the latter being attended by representatives of your Bureau, Mr. Dedrick and Mr. Eckler.

At this meeting, Mr. Dedrick was requested to be a member of a working group which conducted a survey of the problems and submitted certain recommendations to me for the further implementation of the project.

Salient among these recommendations was the formation of a central working unit within the Bureau of the Census which would compile and evaluate population and manpower information derived from all available sources.

The information of actual intelligence value would then be turned over to those intelligence agencies having need therefor, and material of a non-classified nature could be made available to other government agencies as appropriate.

It is therefore requested that you take under consideration the formation of such a group and advise me what your opinions are in the matter. Should you so desire, I would be glad to discuss this plan with you at your convenience.

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

R. H. HILLENKOTTER
REAR ADMIRAL, USN
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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